

## NEWS RELEASE IDAHO WATER RESOURCE BOARD

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## IWRB SETS PUBLIC MEETING FOR JUNE 27 TO DISCUSS BILLINGSLEY CREEK MINIMUM FLOW

For Immediate Release Boise, Idaho – June 11, 2002 For Media Information Contact: Dick Larsen - (208) 327-7933

The Idaho Water Resource Board will hold a special public meeting June 27 in Hagerman to talk with area residents about the Board's water right applications for minimum stream flows on three segments of Billingsley Creek, the Board announced today.

The meeting begins at 7 p.m. at the Hagerman Valley Senior Citizens Center, 140 E. Lake Street.

The Board has applied for water rights, which if approved, would provide for minimum stream flows on three separate reaches of the creek.

The first application, filed in June 1991, would set a minimum flow of 140 Cubic Feet Per Second (CFS) from April through September and 70 CFS from October through March. These would apply to a 1.2-mile stretch of the Creek starting immediately downstream of the Buckeye Ditch diversion and extending to the creek's confluence with the Snake River.

The minimum stream flow is designed to provide fish rearing and spawning habitat, fish passage, waterfowl habitat and aesthetic beauty on the segment, according to the Board.

The second application, filed in July 1999, would set minimum flows on two segments of the creek:

- Reach A a flow of 30 CFS from April through September and 40 CFS from
   October through March on a reach beginning at the hatchery bridge and extending down stream for approximately .75 miles; and
- Reach B a year round flow of 100 CFS on a 1.5 mile reach starting at the Johnson Grade bridge and extending downstream to the Buckeye Ditch diversion.

## Billingsley Creek Minimum Flows – Page 2 of 2

The two minimum stream flows are designed to provide fish rearing and spawning habitat, fish passage, waterfowl habitat and to preserve the aesthetic and recreational values of the stream reaches.

The applications, if approved, would be subordinate to senior water rights with older priority dates.

At the meeting, officials will discuss the two applications filed by the Board and answer questions about the proposals.

The actual applications are available for review during normal business hours at the Twin Falls Office of the Idaho Department of Water Resources, 1341 Fillmore St., Suite 200. For more information, contact Dee Carlson at (208) 327-7991.

The meeting will be held in a facility that meets the accessibility requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you need assistance to attend, participate in or understand the meeting please contact Dee Carlson in advance so arrangements can be made.